



**UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**IRAQ RECONSTRUCTION AND HUMANITARIAN RELIEF**

March 16, 2004  
 Weekly Update #23, Fiscal Year (FY) 2004

*This fact sheet highlights overall accomplishments and some weekly activities from USAID’s reconstruction efforts in Iraq. For more information on USAID’s programs in Iraq please see: [www.usaid.gov/iraq](http://www.usaid.gov/iraq)*

USAID assists Iraqis in reconstructing their country by working within the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA). USAID programs are implemented in coordination with the United Nations, World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF), Coalition country partners, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and private sector partners. The USAID Mission in Iraq carries out programs in education, health care, food security, infrastructure reconstruction, airport and seaport management, economic growth, community development, local governance, and transition initiatives.

The USAID Mission in Iraq implements programs in four strategic areas:

1. Restoring Essential Infrastructure
2. Supporting Essential Health and Education
3. Expanding Economic Opportunity
4. Improving Efficiency and Accountability of Government



On March 6, more than 150 citizens of Al Muthanna’ Governorate participated in a meeting to discuss democracy in Iraq. Participants included city, district, and sub-district representatives; members of the Governorate Council and Directorates; representatives from 24 local tribes; and students from the local college.

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# Program Descriptions and Accomplishments

## 1. Restore Essential Infrastructure

**Electricity** -- *Objectives include the emergency repair or rehabilitation of power generation facilities and electrical grids. Teams of engineers from the Ministry of Electricity, USAID, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the CPA have been working since May to restore capacity to Iraq's power system, which was dilapidated from decades of neglect, mismanagement, and looting.*

### Accomplishments to Date:

- Generated 4,518 MW on October 6—surpassing the pre-war level of 4,400 MW. Average production over the last seven days was 4,012 MW.
- Generated 98,917 MW hours on February 14—the highest since reconstruction began.
- Installed independent sources of power at Baghdad International Airport and Umm Qasr seaport.
- Collaborating with Bechtel, CPA, and Task Force Restore Iraqi Electricity on projects to repair thermal units, replace and repair turbines, rehabilitate the transmission network, and install and restore generators.
  - Adding 725 MW of capacity by summer 2004 through maintenance and rehabilitation projects at nine gas turbine units and three diesel units.
  - Adding 476 MW of capacity by summer 2004 through new generation projects, including new gas turbine units being installed at 10 sites.
- Rehabilitating units 5 and 6 at Doura thermal power plant.
- Rehabilitating units 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 of Bayji thermal power plant.
- Continuing reconstruction of the country's 400-kv transmission network by rebuilding 220 kilometers of Khor Az Zubayr-Nasiriyah 400-kv line.
- Installing new generating capacity at Kirkuk and South Baghdad power plants.



Bayji Unit 2 will add 100 MW when it returns to service March 9. Photo: USAID

### Highlights this Week:

- USAID is supporting the CPA's efforts to bring average peak production to 6,000 MW by July 1, 2004, a level which is expected to meet basic power demands. This effort involves overhauling existing power plant units, instituting routine maintenance practices on power units, and adding power units to the national grid.

**Airports** -- *Objectives include: providing material and personnel for the timely repair of damaged airport facilities, rehabilitating airport terminals; facilitating humanitarian and commercial flights, and preparing the eventual handover of airport operations to the Iraqi Airport Commission Authority.*

### Accomplishments to Date:

- Processing an average of 20 non-military arrivals and departures a day at Baghdad International Airport.
  - More than 5000 military and NGO flights have arrived and departed at Baghdad International Airport since July.
- Completed infrastructure work to prepare Baghdad International Airport for commercial air operations.
  - Repaired Terminal C and administration offices.
  - Installed three X-ray machines.
  - Installed very small aperture terminal (VSAT) communications systems and new diesel powered generators, allowing Iraqi airport control centers to communicate.

- Rehabilitated Iraqi customs office in the arrival hall.
- Preparing Al Basrah International Airport for commercial operations. Ongoing projects include:
  - Repairing runway, taxiway, and apron striping.
  - Installing two baggage x-ray units.
  - Repairing passenger support facilities.
  - Installing VSAT satellite communications.
  - Installing security fence
  - Repairing airport water and sewage treatment plants.
- Completed evaluation of reconstruction requirements at Mosul Airport.

### **Highlights this Week:**

- On March 7, a graduation ceremony was held for 83 newly trained firefighters at the renovated Baghdad International Airport's East Fire Station. The training program was conducted by Skylink and the US Airforce as part of an effort to prepare the firefighters to assume airport fire protection duties from the US military. This transfer of power is a critical step in preparing the airport for commercial activities and transferring responsibility over airport activities to the Iraqis.

**Bridges and Railroads** -- *Objectives include: rehabilitating and repairing damaged transportation systems, especially the most economically critical networks.*

### **Accomplishments to Date:**

#### **Bridges:**

- Demolished irreparable sections of three key bridges (Khazir, Tikrit, and Al Mat) and started reconstruction.
  - *Al Mat Bridge:* A key link on Highway 10 that carries over 3,000 trucks daily on the main route between Baghdad and Jordan.
    - Work was completed, and the four-lane bridge was reopened to two-way traffic on March 3.
  - *Khazir Bridge:* Critical to the flow of fuel and agricultural products to the north.
    - Repaired the south span of the bridge and reopened it for two-way traffic on January 16. Complete repairs are expected by April 2004.
  - *Tikrit Bridge:* An important link for passengers and commerce over the Tigris River between Tikrit and Tuz Khurmatu.
    - On the upstream side of Pier 7, steel beams have been erected and dowels are installed. Work is expected to finish in May 2004.
- Repaired a floating bridge on the Tigris River in Al Kut, improving traffic for approximately 50,000 travelers a day.



The newly rehabilitated Al Mat Bridge was reopened on March 3. Photo: USAID

#### **Railroads:**

- Iraqi Republican Railways (IRR) contributes equipment and labor, while USAID contributes project management, material, and parts. Work on the railways includes:
  - Repairing 16 km of track at the port of Umm Qasr and 56 km of track between the port and Shuiaba Junction near Basrah to facilitate cargo shipments including foodstocks from the seaport to mills.
  - Completed explosive ordinance disposal at all 53 sites of the rail line project near Shuiaba Junction (Al Basrah Governorate) in preparation for installation of new track.

### **Highlights this Week:**

- Reconstruction of Al Mat Bridge is complete. All four lanes opened last week. The bridge, located on Highway 10 approximately 300 km (186 miles) west of Baghdad and 180 km (112 miles) from the

Jordanian border, is traveled by more than 3,000 trucks daily bringing reconstruction and humanitarian aid and goods to Iraq from Jordan.

- USAID and partner Bechtel are working with Iraqi Republican Railways (IRR) to improve Iraq's railroad system between the Umm Qasr Port and the main line near Basrah, restoring vital commercial and humanitarian flows into Iraq. Work is continuing on establishing the track ballast, the stone foundation which supports the railroad track. The ballast production rate has met targets, averaging 800 cubic meters a day, and peaking at 1,000 cubic meters on March 4. To date, 75,000 cubic meters of rock (52 percent of total) have been extracted, and 23,000 cubic meters (16 percent of total) have been crushed.

**Umm Qasr Seaport** -- *Objectives include: managing port administration, coordinating transport from the seaport, and facilitating cargo-handling services such as warehousing, shipment tracking, and storage.*

**Accomplishments to Date:**

- Reopened to commercial traffic June 17; completed first passenger vessel on July 16.
- Offloading cargo from more than 40 ships per month.
- Dredged the port to an average depth of 12.5 meters. Previously, the port was 9-10 meters deep, and limited cargo could arrive only during high tide. All 21 berths are now open to deep-draft ships.
  - An Iraqi dredger, which has been rehabilitated by USAID partner Bechtel, will assist in maintaining the harbor.
- Renovated grain-receiving facility, which can process up to 600 metric tons of grain an hour.
- Instituted interim port tariffs, which provide a revenue stream for financially sustainable port operations.
- Installed generators, energizing all three 11-kv ring mains which distribute electricity throughout the port.
- Completed security fencing at the old and new ports and grain facility.
- Renovating the administration building, passenger terminal, customs hall building, and electrical substations.
- Employing 500 Iraqi staff, the majority of which are in the Marine Department of the Port Authority.



A ship unloads at Umm Qasr grain-receiving facility. Photo: USAID

**Telecommunications** -- *Objectives include: installing switches to restore service to 240,000 telephone lines in Baghdad area; repairing the nation's fiber optic network from north of Mosul through Baghdad and Nasiriyah to Umm Qasr.*

**Accomplishments to Date:**

- Handed over the Al Mamoun Telecommunications site to the Ministry of Communications on February 26. Twelve new telephone switches and an International Satellite Gateway have been integrated with fourteen Iraqi Telephone and Postal Company switches.
- Purchased tools, equipment, and parts to enable Iraqi engineers to restore the network.
  - Audited over 1,200 km of the fiber optic backbone network.
  - Repairing the national fiber optic network from Mosul to Umm Qasr, connecting 20 cities to Baghdad.
- Reconstituting Baghdad area phone service by installing switches with 240,000 lines of capacity. Installed new switches and main distribution frames at 12 sites and integrated them with the 14 existing switches.
  - Baghdad's largest exchange, Al Mamoun, opened on December 13. Over 100,000 individual subscriber lines are now active; work to allow final activation for all subscribers is underway.
  - The Ministry of Communications has brought in additional workers from outside Baghdad to expand the line-splicing workforce and accelerate progress.

- Completed installation of a satellite gateway system at Al Mamoun and restored international calling service to Iraq on December 30.
- Training Iraqi Telephone and Postal Company operators and engineers at Al Mamoun on telecommunications site operations, maintenance, and repairs.

**Water and Sanitation** -- *Objectives include: rehabilitating and repairing essential water infrastructure to provide potable water and sanitation to communities and improve irrigation.*

**Accomplishments to Date:**

- *Nationwide:* Rehabilitating sewage and water treatment plants that are currently by-passing untreated sewage generated by millions of people into the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers.
  - Repairing and rehabilitating water systems throughout central and southern Iraq.
  - Repaired hundreds of critical breaks in Iraq’s water network immediately after the war, significantly increasing water flow.
- *Baghdad:* Expanding one water plant and rehabilitating three sewage plants.
  - Rehabilitating and adding 45% capacity to Baghdad’s Sharkh Dijlah water plant (previously named Saba Nissan water plant), adding an additional 225,000 cubic meters a day to the water supply by May 2004 mostly in the overpopulated eastern sections.
  - Installing back-up electrical generators at 39 Baghdad water facilities and pumping stations to ensure continuous water supply.
  - Rehabilitating Baghdad’s sewage treatment plants—Rustimiyah North, Rustimiyah South, and Kerkh to benefit 3.8 million people by October 2004.
  - Rehabilitated 70 of Baghdad’s non-functioning waste pumping stations.
- *South Central:* Rehabilitating one water plant and four sewage plants.
  - Rehabilitating An Najaf municipal water treatment plant. The project will be completed by June 2004.
  - Rehabilitating Ad Diwaniyah and Karbala’ sewage treatment plants, which serve 200,000 residents and currently discharge untreated waste into the Euphrates River. These projects are expected to be completed by May 2004 and October 2004, respectively.
  - Rehabilitating An Najaf and Al Hillah sewage treatment plants to serve 194,000 residents. These projects are expected to be completed December 2004 and April 2004, respectively.
- *South:* Rehabilitating the entire Sweet Water Canal system, including the canal, its reservoirs, 14 water treatment plants and pumping stations and the Safwan water system
  - The system provides drinking water to 1.75 million residents of Basrah City. It had been operating at less than half capacity.
  - Rehabilitated and removed 34,000 cubic meters of sand and silt from the west settling-reservoir of the Canal, allowing it to be refilled with clean water.
  - Began work on Sweet Water’s 14 water treatment plants in January. By summer 2004, water quality and volume will surpass prewar levels.
  - Completed the restoration of the Safwan water system. All 40,000 residents now have access to potable drinking water.
- *North:* Rehabilitating two water plants and one solid waste collection system.
  - Constructing 400 solid waste collection points in Kirkuk (At Tamim Governorate) to improve sanitation.



New water equipment at an existing Al Basrah water treatment plant. Photo: USAID

- Rehabilitating Mosul and Kirkuk water treatment facilities.

## 2. Support Essential Health and Education

**Health** -- Objectives include: supporting a reformed Iraqi Ministry of Health; delivering essential health services; funding vaccines and high protein biscuits for pregnant and lactating women and malnourished children; establishing a rapid referral and response system for the most serious cases; providing basic primary health care equipment and supplies; training and upgrading health staff; providing health education and information; and identify the specific needs of the health sector and of vulnerable populations such as women and children.

### Accomplishments to Date:

- Procured more than 30 million doses of vaccines since July with support from the Ministry of Health and UNICEF.
- Vaccinated three million children under the age of five through the Expanded Immunization Program since June. USAID will provide vaccines for a total of 4.2 million children under five and 700,000 pregnant women.
- Continuing a monthly catch-up immunization campaign with UNICEF and the Ministry of Health with 4,000 health workers and 124 supervisors.
- Awarded small grants to support Iraqi NGO healthcare efforts throughout Iraq for a total of \$1.8 million.
- Developed a hospital and clinic facility database for the Ministry of Health on facility type, location, service distribution, cost information, and building condition.
- Renovated 52 primary health clinics and re-equipping over 600 to provide essential primary healthcare services including training staff.
- Trained 340 master trainers in 18 governorates who are training more than 2,000 primary healthcare providers to treat and prevent acute respiratory infections and diarrheal diseases.
- Distributed high-protein supplementary food rations to more than 240,000 pregnant and nursing mothers and malnourished children.
- Evaluated 18 national and regional public health laboratories for equipment needs.
- Rehabilitated the National Polio Laboratory.
- Training more than 1,000 health workers and volunteers to identify, treat and monitor the growth of acutely malnourished children.
- Working with the Iraqi Ministry of Health to develop a strategic plan to reduce child mortality and increase the level of preventative care available to the Iraqi people through assistance to their nine working groups which address: public health, health care delivery, health information systems, pharmaceuticals, medical supplies and equipment, health care finance, education and training, human resources, legislation and regulation, and licensing and accreditation.
- Distributing 1.4 million liters of clean water each day to people in Basrah, Al Muthanna', Kirkuk and Mosul.



Essential primary health care equipment has been delivered to Al Andalous Clinic located in Al Anbar Governorate. Photo: USAID

### Highlights this Week:

- To improve Iraq's hospital and health clinic network, USAID and CPA are jointly providing technical support to the Ministry's strategic and master planning processes, which include provisions for equipping and staffing hospitals and clinics throughout the country.
- On February 28, the Ministry of Health conducted a workshop at the University of Baghdad's College of Medicine on the use of monitoring and evaluation processes to improve the performance of health

projects. The workshop focused on the concepts, rationales, and logic of monitoring and evaluation processes and the implementation of different types of evaluation processes. The session included 15 participants, all of whom were college professionals studying public health.

- In support of the Ministry of Health's efforts to strengthen primary health care in Iraq, USAID is continuing its training of trainers courses. Sixteen participants completed the training in Mosul and seventeen completed the training in An Najaf. These trainers will lead rollout training of primary health care providers in these areas as the program continues. Rollout training will eventually reach 2,500 medical practitioners.

**Education** -- Objectives include: increasing enrollment and improving the quality of primary and secondary education, ensuring that classrooms have sufficient materials, facilitating community involvement, training teachers, implementing accelerated learning programs, and establishing partnerships between U.S. and Iraqi colleges and universities.

### **Accomplishments to Date:**

- *Immediately After the Conflict*
  - Provided technical assistance for the resumption of the Ministry of Education functions and salaries.
  - Funded 5.5 million examinations for transitional grades, which ensured the smooth continuation of school.
  - Surveyed secondary schools in all permissive areas of the country (4,541 participants total).
- *Facilities and Supplies*
  - Awarded 626 grants worth more than \$6.0 million to rehabilitate schools and equip Directorates General.
  - Rehabilitated 2,350 schools countrywide for the first term of the 2003/04 school year.
  - Provided materials, equipment and supplies:
    - Distributed 1,494,513 secondary school kits that include pens, pencils, paper, math equipment, and other supplies.
    - Distributed 159,005 student desks, 26,437 teacher desks, 59,940 teacher chairs, 26,050 metal cabinets, 61,500 chalkboards and 58,100 teacher kits.
    - Delivered 808,000 primary student kits.
    - Delivered 81,735 primary teacher kits.
  - In consultation with the Iraqi Ministry of Education, reviewed 48 math and science textbooks for grades 1-12.
  - Printed and distributed 8,759,260 textbooks throughout Iraq.
- *Institutional Strengthening*
  - Trained 860 secondary school Master Trainers during September 2003-January 2004 nationwide.
  - Trained 31,772 secondary school teachers and administration staff.
  - Conducting an accelerated learning program in Baghdad, Nasiriyah, Ad Diwaniyah, Karbala' and Arbil. More than 600 students are participating in the program. In February, the students completed mid term exams.
- *Higher Education*
  - USAID participated in the bi-national Fulbright scholarship review committee set up by the CPA. The Fulbright Scholarship Program returned to Iraq after a 14-year absence. The program awarded at least 25 scholarships for Iraqis to study in the United States in 2004.
  - Launched the Higher Education and Development Program. Awarded five grants worth an estimated \$20.7 million for U.S.-Iraqi university partnerships:



Karbala' Accelerated Learning student Marwa Adnan uses a new chalkboard furnished by USAID. Photo: USAID

- 1) A consortium led by Research Foundation of the State University of New York at Stony Brook partnering with Baghdad University, Al Mustansiriyah University/Baghdad, Basrah University and Mosul University in archeology and environmental health.
- 2) The University of Hawaii College of Agriculture and Human Resources partnering with the University of Mosul Hamam Al-Alil and University of Dohuk for strengthening academic, research, and extension programs.
- 3) The Human Rights Institute at DePaul University College of Law and the International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences (Italy) partnering with Universities of Baghdad, Basrah and Sulaimanya on legal education reform..
- 4) Jackson State University/MCID has partnered with University of Mosul, University of Dohuk and the Nursing Institute (Dohuk) for public health and sanitation.
- 5) The University of Oklahoma and consortia has partnered with the Technology University/Baghdad, Al Anbar University, Basrah University, University of Babil and the University of Salah ad Din in higher education initiatives.

### 3. Expand Economic Opportunity

**Economic Growth** -- *Objectives include: currency conversion and development of economic statistics, small businesses credits, commercial legislation, a national employment program, micro-finance programs, a bank-to-bank payment system, a computerized financial management information system, tax policy and administration, budget planning, insurance ,telecommunications reform and electricity reform.*

#### Accomplishments to Date:

- Worked with the Ministry of Finance to introduce the new national currency, the Iraqi dinar.
  - The currency exchange began on October 15 and was completed on January 15.
  - All of the 6.36 trillion new Iraqi dinars are now in country, and 4.62 trillion Iraqi dinars are in circulation—106 percent of the original demand estimate of 4.36 trillion.
  - The overall management plan for the currency exchange operation was developed by BearingPoint, including security and logistics.
- Conducting a daily currency auction for banks to exchange dinars and dollars.
- Created more than 77,000 public works jobs through the National Employment Program.
- Provided technical assistance on the implementation of a bank-to-bank payment system that allows 80 banks to send and receive payment instructions.
- Assisted in developing, installing, and training staff to use the Financial Management Information System, a new accounting and reporting system that will eventually be used by all Iraqi treasury offices and ministries.
- Assisting CPA in managing a \$21-million microcredit program.
- Supporting CPA's Oil for Food (OFF) Program in planning, program management, logistics, database applications, and communications to support the CPA OFF Coordination Center in the north and south.
- Evaluating and updating commercial laws pertaining to private sector and foreign investment; assisted in the development of the new Company Law.
- Assisted in developing the reconstruction levy in collaboration with the CPA and the UK Customs Service, which imposes a 5 percent reconstruction levy on imports beginning April 1, 2004.



The currency exchange began on October 15 and now all of the 6.36 trillion new Iraqi dinars are in country. Photo: USAID



## **Highlights this Week:**

- In support of the Ministry of Finance's goal to improve the supervisory capacity of Central Bank of Iraq staff, USAID is providing basic computer skill training to staff in the Bank Supervision Department. The two-day course will introduce the staff to working with a computer and will prepare them to use more advanced financial software to be implemented at the Central Bank.
- In support of the Iraqi Treasury's goal to improve Iraq's commercial banking system, USAID is working with the CPA to reconcile and close the year-end 2003 financial statements of Iraq's two largest banks—the state-owned Rasheed and Rafidain—to ensure that the statements are consistent with international accounting standards.
- The first round of a train-the-trainer course on the use of the Ministry of Finance's Financial Management Information System course has been completed. The course instructed staff on setting up accounts and processing financial transactions using the system. Ten Ministry of Finance staff attended the five day course which provided 40 hours of training on the system. These staff will now go on to train additional staff from the Ministry of Finance as well as staff at 27 other Ministries.

**Food Security** -- *Objectives include: providing oversight support for the countrywide public distribution system, which provides basic food and non-food commodities to an estimated 25 million Iraqis; participating in the design of a monetary assistance program to replace the commodity-based distribution system to support local production and free-market infrastructure; and promoting comprehensive agriculture reform to optimize private participation in production and wholesale markets*

## **Accomplishments to Date:**

- Worked with the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) and Coalition Forces to re-establish Iraq's public distribution system in less than 30 days, avoiding a humanitarian food crisis and maintaining food security.
- Contributed cash and food aid in the amount of \$425 million to WFP's emergency operations immediately following the conflict, making the U.S. the foremost contributor to WFP emergency operations in Iraq.
- Placed food specialists in Baghdad, Al Basrah, Al Hillah, and Arbil to support food operations immediately after the conflict.
- Provided ongoing support and technical assistance to WFP and local Iraqi authorities in the Ministry of Trade and the Kurdish Food Departments to ensure the smooth transition of public distribution system management tasks to the Iraqi government. Special attention was given to the transition phase in the northern governorates of Dahuk, As Sulaymaniyah, and Arbil. The initial handover of responsibilities occurred on November 21 without significant problems.
- Played a role in negotiating a memorandum of understanding between the CPA, the Ministry of Trade, and the World Food Program that details WFP's areas of responsibility to include: capacity building and training, procurement of food commodities, the renegotiation of certain food contracts, shipment and overland transport of food commodities, and pipeline management. The World Food Program will continue to assist with supporting the public distribution system through June 2004 and will begin work immediately to assure continuation of food deliveries.
- Currently providing food aid expertise to CPA and Ministry of Trade in Baghdad and assisting with the CPA OFF Coordination Center as WFP and CPA and the Ministry continue to distribute food to all Iraqis.



Iraqi food agents from receiving ration commodities from the public food distributions. Photo: USAID

**Agriculture** – Objectives include: expanding agricultural productivity, restoring the capacity of agroenterprises to produce, process and market agricultural goods and services, nurturing access to rural financial services and improving land and water resource management.

### **Accomplishments to Date:**

Since October, USAID partner DAI has been implementing the Agricultural Reconstruction and Development Program for Iraq (ARDI) to formulate a long-term vision for the sector, while designing activities for quick impact, including:

- *Winter Crop Technology Demonstrations:* On 334 hectares in 15 governorates, 128 farm families are establishing plots with new crop varieties for extension field days.
- *Kirkuk Veterinary Hospital Renovation:* Fifty communities will benefit from a \$96,000 grant to renovate a hospital that serves more than 100,000 livestock in the area.
- *Taza and Rashad Veterinary Clinic Rehabilitation:* A

\$50,000 grant will be matched by supplies and equipment from the Ministry of Agriculture. These rural clinics are the two principal sources of vaccines and medicines for animals in 125 local communities.

- *Internet Connectivity and Repairs to a Student Union Building:* The Baghdad University School of Agriculture will receive a \$75,000 grant that will benefit 4,509 students.
- Seven grants, totaling \$394,000, were approved February 23 to build the capacity of Iraq's agriculture sector. The grants' emphasis on veterinary programs allows an immediate, highly visible response to the challenges that face herders and farmers in the North and Central Regions.



Winter Crop Technology Demonstration using recommended supplemental irrigation. Photo USAID

### **Highlights this Week:**

- The Ministry of Agriculture is establishing 18 date palm nurseries throughout Iraq in support of its goal to reestablish Iraq's dominant position in the international date market, a position it lost under the former regime. Dates are a national treasure for Iraq with both symbolic and economic significance. This project will ensure the preservation of Iraq's 621 varieties of date palm.

**Marshlands** – Objectives include: construct environmental, social and economic baselines for the remaining and former marshlands; assist marsh dwellers by creating economic opportunities and viable social institutions; improve the management of marshlands and expand restoration activities.

### **Program Goals:**

- The \$4-million Marshland Restoration and Management Program will promote wetlands restoration and provide social and economic assistance to marsh dwellers. Initiatives include:
  - Creating a hydraulic model of the marshes to improve water management.
  - Equipping a soil and water quality lab at the new Center for Iraq Marshlands Restoration.
  - Implementing pilot projects to improve treatment of waste and drinking water.
  - Providing social economic assistance through job- and income-generating activities in fisheries, aquaculture, livestock production, and date-palm reproduction.
  - Monitoring water quality in reflooded sites.
  - Extending healthcare services to marsh dwellers.
  - Building local capacity by partnering with Iraqi institutions such as the Ministry of Water Resources, the Ministry of the Environment, the University of Basrah College of Agriculture, the AMAR Charitable Trust, and the Iraq Foundation, and the governments of Canada, Italy, the United Kingdom, and Australia.

## 4. Improve Efficiency and Accountability of Government

**Local Governance** -- *Objectives include: promoting diverse and representative citizen participation in provincial, municipal and local councils; strengthening the management skills of city and provincial administrations, local interim representative bodies, and civic institutions to improve the delivery of essential municipal services; promoting effective advocacy and participation of civil society organizations; enhancing leadership skills; and serving as a recruiting tool for future leaders.*

### **Accomplishments to Date:**

- Implementing local governance activities in 18 governorates. More than 20 million Iraqis are engaging in local policy discourse through local government entities and civil society organizations to:
  - Enhance transparency and participation in local decision-making processes.
  - Restore basic services.
  - Improve the effectiveness and efficiency of local service delivery.
  - Establish, develop, and expand the number of civil society organizations that can interact with local government entities.
- Established 16 governorate councils, 78 district councils, 192 city or subdistrict councils, and 392 neighborhood councils.
- Awarded \$13.4 million to local government agencies and civil society organizations to strengthen the capacity of municipal authorities to deliver core municipal services.
- Committed \$2.4 million for immediate use to implement the CPA's coordinated, comprehensive and nationwide Civic Education Campaign.
- Supporting preparation of 2004 city council budgets in Mosul, Al Hillah, Babil, and An Najaf.
- Recruited more than 400 democratic dialogue facilitators to help Iraqis prepare for the transition.



Attendees of the opening of Al Mansour's new women's center. Photo: USAID

### **Highlights this Week:**

- On March 6, more than 150 citizens of Al Muthanna' Governorate participated in a town hall meeting at the new Al Karama Hall in Samawah to continue discussions on the development of democracy in Iraq.
- Eighteen members of the water, sewer, municipality, and urban planning departments in Mosul (Ninawa' Governorate) are being trained in the use of a municipal Geographic Information System (GIS). The GIS will allow governorate officials to develop a formal transportation improvement plan to add road capacity and alleviate traffic congestion in Mosul. Using the GIS, Mosul service departments will also be able to develop basic information maps on service demand, existing infrastructure, and customer complaints.
- More than 150 people, including 110 women, attended a conference in Al Muthanna on March 8 to commemorate International Women's Day. The conference was organized by women representing associations located throughout the governorate in collaboration with USAID's Local Governance Program.

**Transition Initiatives** – *Objectives include: building and sustaining Iraqi confidence in the transition to a participatory, stable, and democratic Iraq. Working closely with the CPA, USAID's Iraq Transition Initiative assists Iraqi NGOs, national government institutions, and local governments to increase Iraqi support for the transition to sovereignty through quick-dispersing, high impact small grants.*

### **Accomplishments to Date:**

- Awarded 645 small grants totaling more than \$43 million for quick impact activities that support good governance, civil society, conflict management and mitigation, and human rights and transitional justice.
- Supporting initiatives crucial to the democratic transition, including civic education, civil society and media development, increased women's participation, conflict mitigation, and transitional justice. Groups targeted for assistance include women's and youth groups, professional associations, and human rights organizations.
- Met critical needs during the early transition period, by providing short-term employment, restoring basic government and community services, increasing Iraqi access to information and communication, and encouraging protection of human rights.
- Awarded two grants worth \$475,000 to the Ministry of Human Rights for the rehabilitation of buildings to house the National Evidence Storage Facility (NESF). The NESF will serve as a venue to analyze recovered documents and store forensic evidence of mass graves and human rights abuses of the Ba'ath government. The facility is part of a larger effort to help build Iraq's capacity to investigate complex crimes and implement international law enforcement best practices.



Newly renovated Basta Piazza Children's Center in Arbil. Photo: USAID

### **Highlights this Week:**

- In support of the CPA's Civic Education Campaign, USAID's Iraq Transition Initiative is supporting public service announcements and documentary films to educate Iraqis about the country's democratic transition. The funds were granted to an independent Iraqi filmmaker, Evini Films, to reproduce video CDs in Arabic and Kurdish containing public service announcements on democratic themes.
- USAID is working with the CPA to ensure that the Iraqi population is well educated about the Transitional Administrative Law (TAL). Several grants to assist this aspect of the CPA's Transition to Sovereignty Civic Education Plan have been approved by ITI.
- Three grants have been approved to renovate three water treatment stations in the village of Al Kharma in Al Anbar Governorate bringing them to full capacity. The treatment system pumps water from the Tigris River through treatment tanks before it enters the public water supply.
- A grant has been approved to supply office equipment and furniture to the Ninawa' Anti-Corruption and Ethics Task Force in Mosul. The project will enable the task force to hire staff to ensure that the government establishes compliance policies and that all officials conducting activity on behalf of the government abide by all applicable laws, regulations, and a code of ethics.
- A new women's center in Baghdad officially opened on March 8, International Women's Day. Located in Al Mansour neighborhood, the center is one of a planned nine-center network that will promote women's rights and offer courses to women, including English, sewing, and computers. The network of women's centers is being funded partly by USAID.
- USAID has approved a grant for renovation work at the Basta Piazza Children's Center in Arbil. This children's center was originally built in 1981 and has had no maintenance since that time. Renovations under the grant included repairing the roof, doors, windows, floors, electrical work, water and sanitation systems and landscaping.
- The Mosul branch of the Independent Political Prisoners Organization (IPPO) will receive office equipment and furniture through a grant from USAID. IPPO is an association of former political prisoners that assists those imprisoned and the families of those executed by the former regime.

**Community Action Program** -- Objectives include promoting diverse, representative citizen participation in and among communities to identify, prioritize, and satisfy critical community needs, while utilizing local resources. CAP is implemented by five U.S. NGOs with offices in nine major Iraqi cities. Each concentrates on one region in Iraq: ACDI/VOCA (North), International Relief and Development--IRD (Baghdad), Cooperative Housing Foundation International--CHF (Southwest Central), Mercy Corps (Southeast Central), and Save the Children (South).

### **Accomplishments to Date:**

- Established over 600 Community Action Groups in 16 governorates. The projects undertaken by the Community Action Groups are part of a campaign targeting grassroots democratic development.
- CAP has committed \$49.2 million for 1,360 community projects across Iraq; 794 projects have already been completed.
- Iraqi communities have contributed \$15.8 million to community projects. Contributions have included labor, land, buildings, and other in-kind assistance.
- Five U.S. NGOs each concentrate on a region: ACDI/VOCA (North), IRD (Baghdad), CHF (Southwest Central), Mercy Corps (Southeast Central), and Save the Children (South).
  - *ACDI/VOCA*: focuses on the conflict prone areas of Mosul, Kirkuk, the area northwest of Baghdad, and the Iran-Iraq border. Their work bringing communities together has resulted in 137 completed projects and another 148 are in development. These include establishing a youth center in Huwija and establishing a new local water supply in Tikrit.
  - *CHF*: has established a strong presence in the communities of the Shi'a holy cities of Najaf and Karbala, as well as Hillah by establishing very active community associations. An emphasis on critical infrastructure has provided these communities with access roads, sewage and water rehabilitation, school repairs, and swamp clean-up in addition to vital social infrastructure such as community centers and sports clubs. They have completed 97 projects.
  - *IRD*: has completed 200 projects with another 87 projects in development. IRD is focusing increasingly on income and employment generation to address these critical needs around Baghdad.
  - *Mercy Corps*: has completed 89 projects and has 93 more in development. These projects focus on water, sewage, community clean-up, and school rehabilitation.
  - *Save the Children*: has completed 271 projects through community action groups in the south, which include about 40 percent female membership. Projects have focused primarily on immediate community needs such as sewage clean up, water treatment and distribution, public health, and girls' access to education.



Al Aruba Square before CAP began the rehabilitation. Photo: USAID

### **Highlights this Week:**

- In support of its goal to increase income and employment generation in Baghdad, USAID partner International Relief and Development is working with more than 50 local community volunteers to rehabilitate Aruba Square Market in Baghdad's Kadhamiya district. Vendors are currently selling fruit, vegetables, fish, and meat in an ill-equipped area with poor sanitation.
- In an effort to ensure the delivery of essential public services and facilitate economic recovery, USAID is re-equipping a health center in the Taji district through Community Action Program partner International Relief and Development. The project is the first of its kind in the district as previous projects in the area focused primarily on schools.

## USAID Iraq Reconstruction Financial Summary

<i>Agency</i>	<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Sector</i>	<i>Regions</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<b>FY 2003-2004*</b>				
<b>RECONSTRUCTION</b>				
<b>USAID/ANE .....</b>			<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>\$2,477,721,999</b>
	Abt Associates	Health	Countrywide	\$20,995,000
	AFCAP	Logistics	Countrywide	\$91,500,000
	Army Corps of Engineers	Architecture and Engineering services	Countrywide	\$16,500,000
	BearingPoint	Economic Governance	Countrywide	\$47,500,000
	Bechtel National	Airports, buildings, emergency communications, power, railroads, roads and bridges, Umm Qasr seaport, water and sanitation	Countrywide	\$1,029,833,259
	Bechtel National	Infrastructure II: Airports, buildings, emergency communications, power, railroads, roads and bridges, Umm Qasr seaport, water and sanitation	Countrywide	\$809,521,939
	Community Action Program	Development in impoverished communities	Countrywide	\$70,000,000
	DAI	Marshlands	Dhi Qar Al Basrah Maysan	\$4,000,000
	DAI	Agriculture	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
	Fed Source	Personnel Support	Countrywide	\$163,572
	IRG	Reconstruction Support	Countrywide	\$29,087,094
	RTI	Local Governance	Countrywide	\$155,611,000
	CAII	Education	Countrywide	\$56,503,000
	UNICEF	Health, Water, and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$36,700,000
	UNICEF	Education	Countrywide	\$7,000,000
	UNESCO	Textbook Printing and Distribution: Math and Science	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
	WHO	Strengthen Health System	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
	SSA	Port Management	Umm Qasr	\$14,318,985
	SkyLink	Airport Management	Baghdad Al Basrah Mosul	\$27,200,000
	MSI	Monitoring and Evaluation	Countrywide	\$5,500,000
	University Partners	Consortium led by the Research Foundation of the State University of	Baghdad University, Al Mustansiriyah	\$20,730,000

		New York (SUNY) at Stony Brook which includes Columbia University, Boston University and Oxford University (England), University of Hawaii, DePaul University College of Law and the International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences in Siracusa, Italy; and Jackson State University and the Mississippi Consortium for International Development; and Oklahoma State University.	University in Baghdad, Mosul University, Mosul University's College of Agriculture and Forestry in Hamam al-Alil, Basrah University, Al-Anbar University, and University of Salahaddin.	
	Yankee Group	Telecoms Planning	Countrywide	\$58,150
	UNDP	Trust Fund Contribution	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
	World Bank	Trust Fund Contribution	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
<b>EMERGENCY RELIEF</b>				
<b>USAID/DCHA/OFDA .....</b>				<b>\$86,898,040</b>
	Administrative	Administrative Costs	Countrywide	\$6,838,947
	AirServ	Logistics	Countrywide	\$5,309,876
	ARC	Capacity building, Disaster support	Al Basrah	\$537,746
	The Cuny Center	Research studies	Countrywide	\$40,260
	GOAL	Coordination, Nutrition	Al Muthanna'	\$1,507,900
	International Dispensary Association	Health	Countrywide	\$1,284,972
	InterAction	Coordination	Kuwait City	\$92,860
	IOM	IDP programs	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
	Logistics	Commodities and DART support	Countrywide	\$12,005,804
	UNICEF	Health, nutrition, water/sanitation	Countrywide	\$4,000,000
	UN OCHA	Coordination and Information	Countrywide	\$1,200,000
	USAID Amman	Support for emergency water activities	Countrywide	\$500,000
	WFP	Logistics and pre-positioning of food	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
	IMC	Food Security, Health, Nutrition, Water/Sanitation, Capacity building	Countrywide	\$10,702,900
	IRC	Health, Water/Sanitation	Countrywide	\$4,998,685
	Mercy Corps	Health, Non-Food Items, Shelter, Water/Sanitation	Countrywide	\$7,000,000
	SCF/US	Food Security, Health, Shelter, Nutrition, Non-Food Items, Water/Sanitation, NGO Consortium	Countrywide	\$6,883,131
	World Vision	Health, Logistics, Non-Food Items, Water/Sanitation	Countrywide	\$4,994,959
	CARE	Quick-impact projects, Water/Sanitation, Health, Blankets	Countrywide	\$9,000,000
<b>USAID/DCHA/FFP .....</b>				<b>\$425,571,000</b>
	WFP	Operations	Countrywide	\$45,000,000
	WFP	Emerson Trust – 81,500 MT	Countrywide	\$40,337,000
	WFP	P.L. 480 Title II emergency food commodities – 163,820 MT	Countrywide	\$140,234,000
	WFP	Regional Purchase – 330,000 MT	Countrywide	\$200,000,000
<b>USAID/DCHA/OTI.....</b>				<b>\$104,269,938</b>

	Administrative	Administrative Costs	Countrywide	\$2,976,668
	IOM	Iraq Transition Initiative	Countrywide	\$10,587,595
	DAI	Iraq Transition Initiative	Countrywide	\$80,000,000
	Internews	Media	Countrywide	\$160,359
	Radio SAWA	Media	Countrywide	\$400,000
	NDI/IRI	National Governance	Countrywide	\$400,000
	IFES	National Governance	Countrywide	\$1,042,315
	Spa War**	Inter-Ministry Communications	Countrywide	\$8,703,001
<b>TOTAL USAID ASSISTANCE TO IRAQ IN FY 2003/2004 .....</b>				<b>\$3,094,460,977</b>

\* Figures in funding sheet are subject to change and do not represent a final official accounting of USG obligations.

\*\* For accounting purposes, funding for this activity has been obligated by OFDA under an existing interagency agreement.